



BY THE NUMBERS

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TRUTH

Lockhart

The Facts On Clinton's Raid on Social Security

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Yesterday, White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart suggested that the idea that President Clinton finally came around to the Congressional Republican's plan of protecting 100 percent of the Social Security surplus is an "absurd notion."

While it's obvious the White House is straining and posturing now not to be seen spending Social Security—the facts are against them. Clearly the White House is in need of a little history lesson on their own budget.

Clinton's February Budget Submission: \$53 Billion

- < Joe Lockhart: "We came forward with an overall plan for how to strengthen Social Security..."
- < **The Truth:** In February this year, President Clinton submitted his fiscal year 2000 budget. Even his own budget office, the Office of Management and Budget, estimated President Clinton would spend at least \$12.2 billion of the Social Security surplus. **The Congressional Budget Office estimated the President would spend \$53 billion of the Social Security surplus.**

The July Mid-Session Review: \$7 Billion

- < Joe Lockhart: "...and the president put forward numbers at the midyear that said we can do all this and we don't have to touch the Social Security surplus."
- < **The Truth:** In July the President submitted the mid-session review of his budget. **CBO estimated the President was still spending \$7 billion of the Social Security surplus.**

Republicans Are Protecting Social Security

- < Joe Lockhart says that CBO says that the Republicans have already spent the Social Security surplus.
- < **The Truth:** In a September 30 letter to Speaker Hastert, CBO Director Dan Crippen clearly states that the final GOP budget plan **"will not use any of the projected Social Security surplus."**